

Narrative for COVID Update February 22, 2021

Select Board member Karen Connolly noted the board meets at 6:30 tomorrow (Tuesday, Feb. 23) via Zoom. Check scituate.ma.gov for the agenda and Zoom link.

The South Shore Irish Heritage Trail will be featured at 3 p.m. on Sunday (Feb. 28) on Shamus Mulligan's show on WROL.

MBTA service cuts will be addressed from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday (Feb. 24). Check the website: mbta.com to register.

Ms. Connolly expressed condolences on behalf of the town to the family of Michael Clark. Mr. Clark recently passed way. He served on the capital planning committee, conservation commission and water resources committee. She said it takes a lot of people to make Scituate run, and he will be missed greatly.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau reminds residents that the state Covid vaccination program is in Phase 2, Step 2, meaning that those age 65 and older are eligible as well as those with two or more co-morbidities. Check mass.gov/Covid for more details.

The Marshfield fairgrounds is a regional vaccination site. You must sign up on the state website. Check back regularly for updates. The state mass vaccination sites' appointment availability at Gillette and Fenway Park are updated on Thursdays.

Scituate conducted a small clinic last week. But the town has learned local clinics will not be getting any more doses except for the second doses needed by those who received their vaccination at the clinic. The state is focusing on pharmacies and the bigger sites. Check the state website.

Anyone having a hard time getting an appointment, can call the state help line at 2-1-1 or the Scituate Senior Center at 781-545-8722.

Boudreau said the town had 32 new Covid cases over the past week; that is up from 28 the previous week. The town's positivity rate is 2.98 percent over the last 14 days. Scituate is still in the "yellow" on the state positivity map.

While the town is heading in the right direction, it is important to remain vigilant: wear a mask, wash your hands and stay socially distant.

Boudreau said those who traveled out of state for school vacation week, have to follow state protocols. That includes 10 days in quarantine or producing a negative PCR test administered within 72 hours of arrival. Those age 10 and over must follow these protocols. For children under 10, contact the school nurse for guidance. There is a link on: scituate.k12.ma.gov.

Beach stickers can be purchased in person at Town Hall or online. Non-resident beach stickers have sold out.

Boudreau thanked the hard workers at the Scituate DPW for staying on top of last week's storm that went on for about 48 hours.

He said the survey about what to do with the Harbor Community Building (former Pier 44) will stay online for at least another week. There have been 900 responses so far.

There are signs with QR codes outside Town Hall, the library, and the community center. By scanning in the QR code, a resident can respond to the survey on their phone.

Supt. of Schools Bill Burkhead welcomed everyone back from school vacation week.

He said there were seven reported Covid cases from Feb. 13-19 for a total of 147 for the school year.

The school department is in the midst of the fiscal year 2022 budget process. Hearings will be held at the School Committee, Select Board, and Advisory Committee meetings.

Burkhead read a letter from Police Chief Mark Thompson thanking the school nurses for their help in vaccinating the town's public safety personnel.